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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Szczech et al.

Application No.: 10/805,865

Filing Date: 3/22/2004

Title: PORTABLE PEDAL EXTENSION, STEP, FOOTREST, AND BRIEFCASE FOR SMALL PIANISTS

Examiner: Jeffrey Donels

Art Unit: 2837

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated 12/06/2005, please amend the above mentioned application as follows:

In the claims please note that claims 2 and 3 have been amended:

What is claimed is:

1. (Original) A pedal extension for small pianists on a multiple pedal piano, one pedal being a damper pedal, comprising:
 - (a) a rectangular box having a first side with four feet contacting a floor, a second opposing side forming a footrest; a front end facing the piano, two vertical sides separating the side with four feet from the footrest side at a usable height and to form a storage space within the box;
 - (b) a pressure bar on the front end of the box for fastening the box to at least one of the piano pedals;
 - (c) a push knob in contact with the piano damper pedal, said push knob on one end of a threaded rod disposed vertically through a slot in said footrest side;
 - (d) an extension pedal having a threaded hole therein, with said threaded rod screwed through the hole, wherein the extension pedal has one end fastened to the footrest side via a hinge, and

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(c) a rod-length-adjusting knob on the opposing end of said threaded rod, with said adjusting knob adjusted to lift the extension pedal from the footrest side.

2. (Currently amended) The pedal extension of claim 1 [further comprising] wherein: [means for carrying] the box [as] is a portable briefcase.

3. (Currently amended) The pedal extension of claim 2 further wherein: [said means for carrying] the box includes a handle, or a shoulder strap, or back straps.

4. (Original) The pedal extension of claim 1 further comprising: height-adjustable feet mounted on each vertical side, wherein increasing the height of the adjustable feet increases the force of the pressure bar on at least one piano pedal.

5. (Original) The pedal extension of claim 1, wherein: the damper pedal has an outer end; and the push knob is positioned near the outer end of the damper pedal to improve leverage.

6. (Original) The pedal extension of claim 1, wherein: the container has a height between approximately 10 and 20 centimeters.

7. (Original) The pedal extension of claim 1, wherein: the footrest side is reinforced to act as a step.

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 3 have been amended to remove the means-plus-function language thus responding to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are requested. If possible, I would like to talk to Jeffrey

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Donels when he receives these revisions in order to expedite the process of correcting claims 2 and 3.

Respectfully submitted:

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